

HONORING RETIRING ACADIA
PARISH SHERIFF KENNETH GOSS

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, the long and successful career of a good friend is drawing to a close. On June 30, 2004, after 20 years in his current office and over 40 years in law enforcement, Acadia Parish Sheriff Ken Goss will retire.

Sheriff Goss' distinguished career in law enforcement is known and respected across Louisiana. He has been a leader, innovator and enforcer his entire career, consistently keeping his department on the cutting edge of law enforcement while maintaining the respect of his peers and those in the community he serves.

He has received numerous awards and accolades from both his colleagues and his constituents, affirming his dedication to his community and his intense desire to constantly improve the safety of our neighbors. His long career has also incorporated service in the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, including a term as president of the organization. Moreover, Sheriff Goss serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association.

He is dedicated to the young people in our community. Throughout his tenure, Sheriff Goss has implemented or expanded programs such as DARE, Mentoring Programs, the School Resource Officer Program, ACAMP—a summer camp for 8–10 year olds, and Basic Training—a summer program for 7th and 8th graders.

He has grown the Acadia Parish Sheriffs Office to 130 deputies and the Detective Division to 8 deputies in the Criminal Investigation Division. True to his desire to constantly improve as the resources allow, numerous programs within Sheriff Goss' department from narcotics to emergency response and communications have been enhanced to meet the needs of our community.

Sheriff Goss is an example to local law enforcement across the country. After 40 years in law enforcement in Acadiana, his record of accomplishment is unparalleled. I wish Sheriff Goss well in his retirement, and I speak for our community when I offer him my humble thanks for his lifetime of dedication to our safety.

IN HONOR OF SUSAN FERREN

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished Californian, Susan Ferren, as she is inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Susan Ferren is a manager in San Mateo County's Human Services Agency and for the past 12 years has dedicated herself to improving health in San Mateo County. In addition to her job at the Human Services Agency, Susan Ferren is a Marriage and Family Therapist Intern and is working toward obtaining her li-

cense. She also works as a Crisis Therapist at Mills/Peninsula Hospital.

Susan Ferren has initiated and managed many innovative programs to address family violence and children's welfare. She is cochair of the Family Self-Sufficiency Policy Team which helps families achieve stability and independence, and a site coordinator for the Fatherhood Project. She serves on the board of directors of Sor Juana Ines and has given many hours of volunteer time to several community service agencies.

Susan Ferren is a mentor to interns at the Human Services Agency and gives generously of her time and talents to nurture them. A single parent, she is justifiably proud of her extraordinary son and daughter. She's been a Cub Scout Leader, a Sunday School Teacher, a Room Parent, a PTA Vice President and a Team Mother for several sports teams.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Susan Ferren as she is inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

TRIBUTE TO DOUG WINTER

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor veteran Doug Winter of Paonia, Colorado. It is my privilege to recognize Doug as he prepares to assume the role of State Commander of the Colorado American Legion. Doug believes deeply in our great nation and has demonstrated his dedication and commitment to his country through his service, endurance, and sacrifice in the United States Marine Corps as a battery gunner sergeant. Now, as he prepares to take on his new role as State Commander, I would like to honor Doug's service before this body of Congress and this nation.

Since his service in Vietnam, Doug has demonstrated a deep commitment to his fellow veterans. Thirteen years ago, Doug joined Paonia Post 97 of the American Legion. Since then, he has served as adjutant commander, commander and first vice commander of Post 97, and as District 11 junior and senior vice commander. Doug understands that the completion of military service does not mean the end of a serviceman's responsibility to his fellow veterans. He reaffirms his commitment to his country and his fellow veterans daily, through his work with the Colorado American Legion.

Mr. Speaker, in this time of international uncertainty, our veterans provide a firm foundation for our nation. It is an honor to rise today and recognize Doug Winter before this body of Congress and this nation for his service to this country and dedication to his fellow veterans. For the first time in 25 years, the Colorado American Legion will have a leader from the Western Slope, and it is my distinct honor to represent such a fine American as Doug Winter in this Congress.

SECURE AND FAST ENTRY AT THE
BORDER ACT OF 2003 (SAFE BOR-
DER)

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an opportunity to strengthen national security, promote bi-national commerce, and provide assistance to our dedicated agents at the border.

My district touches the U.S.-Mexico border. Because of this proximity, ports of entry play a vital role in our area's economic and social life. Thousands of San Diego and Tijuana residents cross the border every day as commuters, shoppers, or visitors, illustrating the growing global connection between our neighboring countries. Unfortunately, our border infrastructure has not kept pace with the booming traffic volume, and travelers frequently encounter delays and congestion at the border.

The tragic events of September 11 further intensified these challenges along the border. Increased security measures severely over-extended inspection resources and waits lasting up to several hours became commonplace. Ports of entry in other states that had not previously encountered significant delays realized that they were not well equipped to handle future volume growth. This climate raised the need for innovative methods that meld security measures with more efficient practices. For some of my constituents, the answer came in the form of a dedicated commuter lane program called SENTRI.

SENTRI, which stands for Secure Electronic Network for Travelers' Rapid Inspection, accepts only low-risk travelers who pass both an extensive background check to verify their eligibility and a thorough inspection of their vehicle. After passing through these steps, travelers receive the privilege of using an exclusive lane to cross the border into the United States.

Since its introduction, SENTRI has quickly demonstrated its ability to reduce wait times without compromising border security. Border waits often lasted an hour or more before SENTRI, but now average only 5 to 15 minutes for enrollees. Travelers in other lanes also benefit because the prescreened SENTRI crossers move swiftly through the border, reducing the number of motorists using general commuter lanes. Expediting inspections through SENTRI is actually helping to improve border security, as Customs and Border Patrol agents can focus more attention on non-screened drivers and passengers. Additionally, those travelers in SENTRI lanes have a 50 percent greater probability of being referred to secondary inspection than those in regular lanes due to built in random selection. As a result of embedded security measures, statistics show an extremely low rate of fraud among renewal participants. Simply put, SENTRI lanes are more efficient and better inspected than regular commuter lanes.

Unfortunately, SENTRI has become a victim of its own success. SENTRI needs a greater investment of resources to keep up with the current and future demand. Enrollment increased by more than 100 percent after September 11 and, currently, prospective applicants must wait approximately 8 months. I believe that if we want innovative programs like